

VAAPI CAUCUS

Virginia Asian American & Pacific Islander Caucus

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Richmond, VA — The Virginia Asian American and Pacific Islander Caucus (VAAPIC) has released the following statement regarding the Supreme Court draft opinion leaked late Monday evening:

Many limited-English proficient (LEP) AAPIs, along with other marginalized groups, already lack access to healthcare and other vital social safety programs. Banning access to abortion will not reduce the number of abortions, but will undeniably lead to unsafe abortions, contributing even further to the tragic rise in [maternal deaths](#) in this country. Ensuring sound and legal reproductive healthcare is essential to protecting the well-being of families across Virginia, specifically marginalized communities that already face systemic barriers to adequate health services.

If this draft majority opinion proves to be true and is the ruling of the Supreme Court of the United States later this year, Virginia will continue to provide safe and legal access to abortion. Our laws are in place to protect reproductive healthcare, and the VAAPIC wholeheartedly supports these current protections. Our state legislatures are the first line of defense to protect the right to bodily autonomy.

This attack on reproductive freedom highlights the importance of our 2023 state legislative elections. These upcoming elections are more critical than ever before, and it is vital that we vote to ensure that reproductive healthcare is accessible to all.

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The Virginia Asian American and Pacific Islander Caucus (VAAPIC) is a legislative organization recognized by the General Assembly to serve as a collaborative voice for Virginia's Asian American and Pacific Islander communities by identifying public issues of interest and to develop formal positions, facilitate discussions, and advocate for policy outcomes.